

In the Specification

Applicant presents a replacement Abstract below indicating the changes with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Please replace the current Abstract with the amended Abstract that follows:

An executable program is prepared from a plurality of object code modules, each object code module including section data and associated relocations and at least one of the object code modules further including code sequences at least some of which are like to be repeatedly included in the executable program. Wherever a code sequence is to be inserted, a relocation instruction specifies the location of the code sequence and the code sequence is inserted into the section data at the appropriate point. A linker, a method for assembling, and a computer program product support these operations.

~~A linker is provided for preparing a executable program from such a plurality of object code modules, the linker including a relocation module for reading relocations and being operable to identify a relocation specifying one of the above mentioned code sequences, a section data module for holding section data into which a code sequence is to be inserted, and a program preparing means which prepares the executable program including the section with the inserted code sequences.~~

~~Also discussed is a method for assembling such an object code module and a computer program in the form of such an object code module, the computer program being co-operable with the linker to prepare said executable program.~~